Winto's GARDEN - S - " Fedora".
FART THE ATE \* S - " Elizabeth."
FALLA THEATHE \* S - " Tannhaeuser."
DNION SOLARE THEATRE - S - " Three Wives to One Husband."
WALLACK'S THEATRE—S.—" Victor Durand."
DTH AVENUE THEATRE—S.—" Mam'selle."
14TH STREET THEATRE—S.—" Frivolity."

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## FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, DEC. 25.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Fourier, Russian Nihilists have an organization in London. - The Powers have agreed to consider the British proposals regarding Egypt as disposed of. — Ingall, Chillips & Co., of London, have fulled. — A dynamiteur in Paris charged that money is collected in America. Emperor Witham's physician is dead.

Conceres. After contine business both houses inflormed until January 5.
Domesto. The decision in the Sharen divorce

east in San Francisco was in factor of Sarah Hill, - The Democrats in Buildings of displeased at the management of the tropic units theopy lonhis masked own proped and bound the parama to a form house meat Xenta, Ohio, and carried all the

farmer's money. - The Oreson and Transcom-Imental Company have obtained their arst bean of The Mayor of Philadelphia has \$10,000,000. succeeded in stopping the indiscituinate blowing of horns. The Ratiroad Commissioner of Mianesota complained in his annual report of the freight rates for wheat.

CITY AND SCHURBAN .- Brutal murder by a negro in New-Jersey. - A romance ended at the City Hall. A railroad wreck at Nanuet, N. J. The injunction against the Aldermen not removed, Park Commissioner Wales indignant.

Awarding the Aqueduct contract pew arguing before the Police Board. - Tenement House Commission testimony. = A man robbed by his sister. ...... General Sherman read a paper on the militia. : - The Stock Exchange indulged in its Christmas frelie. = Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (41212 grains). 83.74 cents. Stocks generally dull with declining tendencies and closest weak.

THE WEATHER, - TRIBUNE local observations in dicate colder, fair or clear weather. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 26°; lowest, 21°; average

Of course, there is no longer any use to deny it. A person said to be of excellent reputation as a dynamiteur, in Paris, has told a correspondent of one of the London papers that the London Bridge explosion was planned by a man who is now in America, and that the money to buy the dynamite came from America. Could any proof of our guilt be more conclusive ? Certainly not-anless O'Donovao Rossa should now confess that he is that man.

The usual argument in favor of the free manufacture of oleomargarine was perpetrated yesterday in the test suit against the grocer Morris Marks, to determine the constitutionality of the prohibitory law. It was to the effect that bogus butter is not only nice but that many people who have seen it made prefer it to the genuine product of the dairy. Why, then, do the manufacturers and dealers try to sell the imitation for the real thing? That is an old question but it is directly to the point.

The attempt to turn the Stock Exchange into a variety show on the day before Christmas was less successful yesterday than usuai. This may have been due to the fact that the performers were hired; or to objections of the two or three brokers who did have a little business to any interruption; or to the general gloom which surrounds the average broker nowadays to the depth of several feet; or to a combination of these causes. At any rate, the mirth was forced and the laughter a hollow

Mr. Mapleson's scheme to build and manage a combination opera house, concert hall and ball-room on the site of the Madison Samure Garden makes a fine showing—on paper. Everybody would be glad to see the structure raised and to attend the entertainments, bat least if the prices of admission were low. But there have been so many airy edifices proposed to cover that site that the public may be excused, perhaps, for a little scepticism about this one until it is further advanced than at present. Was not Mr. Mapleson once about to erect a great opera house, something like this, on the Thames Embankment ?

Now let the English look at home, The cable dispatches to day quote from a Russian journal which declares that many of the Nihilist plots are concocted in London, whence the conspirators, disguised as exporters, dynamite to Russia. Why, we ask, why have

English call themselves a law-abiding people and sit still while such atrocities are plotted against a friendly Power "in their midst "that is to say, in the heart of the city? Has not the moment come when English law should be altered so that such things shall no longer be done in England with impunity ?-(For a continuation see almost any Isauc of The London Times on American responsibility for dynamite explosions in London.)

The need of amending the laws relating to the citizen soldiery of this country, passed by the Federal Congress, was neatly pointed out by General Sherman yesterday in his paper before the Military Service Institution. As the statute now stands every militiaman (if he obeys the law) is obliged to provide himself with the accourrements used in the early days plored and opened to the commerce of the of the Republic. Among these are "two extra flints and a powder horn." A soldier thus fitted out in these days would be more useful in a museum than in the ranks.

The Mayor's objections to signing some of the contracts for bailding the new aqueduct yesterday were entirely reasonable. The sureties had been changed. The new men may be equally as good as the old, but the fact remains that the Aqueduct Commissioners in considering the bids, in the first place rightly attached great importance to the names of the persons who were to become responsible for the contractors' performance of their duty. Mr. Thompson could not see that "it would make any difference." That is not strange. The Commissioner has seldom seemed quite able to see the difference between right and wrong.

The Aldermen tried yesterday to have the injunction order against them vacated, and they secured a hearing before Judge Lawrence for this purpose. Although decision was reserved, the delay which Mr. Thompson's friends seem to be trying to get for him has been shortened by a day; and a day in this matter is a good deal. The very seeking of this injunction seems to indicate that the Commissioner felt his grip on the Department of Public Works growing weaker, and feared the possible results of a daily meeting of the Board. Perhaps daily meetings might have proved too expensive for his backers.

The motive of the brutal marder committed yesterday near Park Ridge, New-Jersey, was simple greed. The murderer is a worthless negro, an idle fellow who would not work, and who killed the unsuspecting grocer for \$143. The crime emphasizes the point so frequently noted that something ought to be done to make the carrying of concealed weapons a more serious offence than it is at present. It cannot be prevented, but it could be rendered more unpopular among the debased classes if every time a vagrant or petty criminal was arrested for a misdemeanor and weapons were found hidden about him his punishment should be increased in severity.

### MINOR OBJECTIONS.

Putting aside for the moment the graver question which the Nicaragua Canal treaty raises, that of international obligation, it may be well to consider briefly some of the objections likely to be raised which ought at the outset to be disposed of as comparatively frivalans. Theremay be sound and sufficient reasons of a National or international character for declining to undertake the proposed work at this time, or for refusing to a sume the responsibilhe which the contemplated tiests would invalve, but the real alderthous, whatever they may be, should not be magnified in public estimation by confounding them with considera tions which aught to have no weight in the discussion of a subject so vasily important.

The argument that the shipping by which the proposed canal would be used, would not suffice to make it pecuniarity profitable as an investment is not worthy of consideration. First of all, it is to be considered that the United States ought not to contemplate this work without securing important advantages in cost of transportation to its own shipping between its Atlantic and Pacific States. If that part of the traffic is to be nearly or wholly free from tolls, the return which the country may expect for its investment will be secured in the commercial advantages to its merchants and its shipping, its producers and its consumers, and these alone will far ontweigh the pecuniary bardens involved by the construction of the canal. No just estimate, moreover, of the probable traffic through such a canal can be formed from statistics of transportation in the past between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The American traffic would undoubtedly increase with great rapidity; the foreign traffic would extend enormously also, if the tolls which it should be found necessary to impose should not prove too serious a tax. It is to be remembered, too, that the most eminent authorities predicted very positively that the Suez Canal would never pay, and fortified their opinion with masses of statistical data. Yet that work has proved enormously profitable.

The loan to Nicaragua, also, is an insignificant matter. It is in no sense a gift, for there is no doubt of its repayment if the United States really means to build the canal, and unless the United States arrives at that determination it has no reason to perfect the treaty. or to make the advance therein contemplated Nor can an advance made under such eireumstances be construed as a precedent, to the detriment of this country in any future trans-

It is said that the responsibility assumed under the contemplated treaty will require the building of a strong navy. But this Nation wants a pavy in any case. There is no subject on which public opinion has been more clearly expressed; none on which the leading men of all parties are more clearly agreed. It is a disgrace to the country that Democratic refusal to make needful appropriations for the naval service has left that branch of the National defence in a crippled condition. But, putting aside the cause, all parties agree that the dis grace ought to be removed, and that the Navy of the United States ought to be put as nearly as possible in an effective condition.

Finally, there comes the question of expense It is urged that a large sum of Imoney must be appropriated from year, to year to meet the cost of construction, and that large contingent expenditures may also be involved. Let it be considered, first, that the present burdens of taxation are absolutely not felt by the people; they exist only in the imaginations of fanatical theorists. But, moreover, nearly the entire sum which may thus be expended will go to people of the United States in the employment of labor, in the purchase of materials, in the manufacture of from and machinery, and equipment for rathmads, and the building of ships and their armament. This expenditure, at a time of great industrial depression, would go far to support and stimulate home todas: tries, and every dollar so expended would be of

direct benefit to the people.

These obestions, it may be fairly said, do not deserve serious consideration in connection

require careful examination by the Senate and by the people. It is desirable at once to separate these more serious topics of inquiry from the trifles which, by not a few opponents of the treaty, are raised and urged as serious reasons for its rejection.

THE CONGO CONFERENCE,

The preminence accorded to the American delegates at the Congo Conference appeals strongly to National pride. But there [are grave reasons for regretting their presence in Berlin and their participation in this European council. The Monroe Doctrine excludes the United States from meddling in the diplomatic intrigues and compacts of the Old World. The fact that the Valley of the Congo has been exworld by an American does not offer any warrant for disregarding the chief canon of National diplomacy. The American delegates have been hospitably entertained at Berlin, and treated with special distinction. Mr. Stanley has been the lion of the occasion, and Prince Bismarck seems to have made a pet of him. The largest schemes of dealing with the Congo question have been introduced by the American delegates, and their opinions have been received with flattering tokens of interest and respect. All these things are gratifying in their way; but sober-minded Americans cannot conceal their apprehensions nor be deluded by compliments. Prince Bismarck seems to have inveigled the United States into taking part unnecessarily in European transactions and establishing a precedent at variance with the Monroe Doctrine. We are glad to observe that The Herald is

taking the right ground on this subject, and warning the country against the consequences of this ill-considered action. It argues that Prince Bismarck is using the United States as an important piece in his international chess tournament, and that if this policy be followed continuously, it is only a question of time as to when American men-of-war shall be called transporting companies, and, as Mr. Phelps upon to anchor off the mouth of the Congs and to assume a belligerent attitude toward some nation in Europe. Its reasoning on this subject we consider valid. The only pity is that The Herald did not unite with THE TRIBUNE in an earlier stage of this transaction in reminding the State Department of the bearings and prohibitions of the Monroe Doctrine. The first mistake was made when the United States recognized the flag of the International African Association at a time when England, Germany, France and Portugal were making treaties and exchanging diplomatic remonstrances. It was then evident that the Congo question was one affecting European diplomacy. It was not an American question, peril. THE TRIBUNE contended at the outset that the United States ought not to be drawn into this complication. It has seen nogreason to shift its ground.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRE. The Brooklyn Inspector of Buildings has issued an order to the examiners charging them housed, whether they are provided with fireescapes or not, to the end that they may be mough, Pite-escapes in large asrlums and quate sateguards. In the first place, it is not to could not reach them, and even if they could physical strength to descend from a third or of modern society. fourth story by these contrivances, even for dibleon would be afraid to trust to them unless firemen were there to assist and encourage them. But even if all children were as bold and nimble as monkeys, it would still be imprudent to put too much reliance on fireescapes.

The question of indestructible staircases is of more importance. Wooden staircases in asylums and similar buildings ought to be rigidly prohibited, and no exception should be allowed to this rule. If the staircases are of iron or other non-inflammable material a building will have to burn very quickly to cut off the escape of the inmates. This rule should be enforced, therefore, as a prime necessity, though it is only one of several changes which require to be made in all such buildings. To allow an asylum to be fitted throughout with highly inflammable pine lumber is almost criminal recklessness. To permit the dividing walls to be so thin that a fire can pass through them almost as quickly as through paper, is as bad. The mansard roof should be tabooed as a regular death-trap; and the hanging of the doors so as to open outward should be insisted upon. And not until each and all of these changes have been made can it be said with truth that any building of the pattern of the Brooklyn Orphan Asylum is safe, or fit to be the habitation of several hundred children. We hope Mr. Esterbrook realizes this, and that he does not mean to stop short at providing such awful lesson as that of the asylum fire ought to be enough for any Inspector of Buildings. \_

### TWO SPEECHES CONTRASTED

The opinion held of the Democratic party by the business men not only of New-York but of all other commercial, manufacturing and financial centres, was singularly illustrated by th two speeches of Mr. flewitt and Mr. Phelps on Friday. The two gentlemen are sharply opposed to each other as partisans. Both have arge means; both have innested largely in undertakings which the policy of the Government may affect, and both have also a still larger personal and pecuniary interest in the general prosperity of the country; but Mr. Hewitt is a zealous advocate of what Democrats please to call "Tariff Reform," while Mr Phelps is a strong champion of protection; Mr. Hewitt is a zealous Democratic partisan, and Mr. Phelps was one of the foremost champions of the Republican party in the recent struggle. Approaching the railroad problem from such different political mositions, how for do these gentlemen agree or differ in their epinions and practical suggestions !

a The contrast is singularly instructive. Mr. Hewitt declares with profound regret that the measure favored by nearly all his party friends, in this as in many other instances, is contrary to sound reasoning, opposed to the experience of practical business men, hostile to the very interests which it professedly seeks to serve, palpably impracticable, and certain to bring reproach upon the party and disaster upon the country. With intense feeling he says that the

questions by this House. They have seen this House resist the resumption of specie payments. They have seen this House thrust the "Silver bill down the reluctant throats of an unwilling community. And now they behold "this House, and this side of it," the Democratic side, "forcing reactionary measures on the commerce of the country, which will imperil "the business of New-York, which is the throat " of the commerce of the country." Mr. Hewitt did himself injustice, in representing the commercial men of one locality. The business men of the whole country have one interest in this matter, and one feeling, and Mr. Hewitt's profound disgust and keen regret are shared by conservative and practical business men in every part of the country, who are Democrats, but who know that it involves a terrible risk to intrust the affairs of the Nation to a party so ignorant, so wrong-headed, and so prone to do mischief.

Mr. Phelps, on the other hand, is able to make a stronger and a bolder speech against unwise legislation, without once referring to the conduct of his own party. Twenty-four years that party has had power to interfere with domestic commerce in the hope of "regulating" it and removing real or supposed abuses. It has wisely refrained, believing with Mr. Phelps that incomparably better results must surely be attained by the free operation of natural laws and individual interests. Thus Mr. Phelps is able to point to the fact that the rates charged for transportation are lower here than anywhere else in the world, and lower now in this country than ever before, that the people are better and more faithfully served in every respect, and that the irresistible tendency is toward constant improvement. Greater improvement has been realized, without Governmental restriction, than the advocates of that policy ten years ago, or twenty years ago, thought it possible ever to realize by means of any restrictions. Public opinion, constantly advancing, demands each year more and more from the shows, that opinion is exceedingly powerful with the men who are the real managers of great corporations.

These gentlemen, Mr. Hewitt and Mr. Phelps, both faithfully express the feelings and opinions of the conservative and practical business men of the whole country. Such men profoundly distrust the Democratic party, precisely because it is perpetually playing the demagogue, and pandering to ignorant prejudice at the cost of peril to great public interests. Mr. Hewitt knows that his action in the last campaign exposed the country to terrible peril. Mr. Phelps is sustained in defeat by the consciousness that he did all that he could to save the country from

### CHRISTMAS WRECKS.

Christmas is always a season of wreeks, and of more than usual peril and suffering for seamen, especially those who are found during this inclement period on the bleak New-England coast. There are many wrecks at such times, and there are few wrecks in which life is to examine and report all asylums and build- not imperilled. But the organization of lifeings in which large numbers of pupils are saving crews is now so good that the chances of rescue are much greater than formerly, and the heroic actions performed on many such "reviewed, and if necessary additional fire-"escapes may be ordered." This order is well so much matter-of-course that probably for enough as far as it goes, but it does not go far who read about them give any thought to the school buildings must always be very made. | coasts by those life saving crows is descrying of the highest praise and admiration. For or supposed that they can be utilised by the these men, for the most part rough, homely medicity of children. In the case of the fishermen or bhatmen, most whenever they dubtion who has their lives in the Brooklyn | man the life heat liberally take their lives Asylum luftmary, the escapes would have been in their hands, and none know this better than quite useless, for sich, feelde and blind children they do, though the fact never causes a moment's hesitation among them. And it must reach them, could not descend by them. In fact, be admitted that there is a bracing atmosphere it is questionable whether it is ever safe to of arduous duty simply performed about the regard fire-escapes as adequate means of rescue | life-saving service which is wholesome and where children are concerned. It requires a encouraging, even though it may deepen the good deal of courage, presence of mind and contrast with many self-indulgent tendencies

Few who live warmly and well can at all duly adults, and in the majority of cases we think realize what it is that both rescuers and rescued the wrecked vessel have very likely been exposed for two or three days to fierce gales and whelming seas. They have probably been wet through with ice-cold water all that time. They have been able to snatch only some coarse cold food at long intervals. They have worked until only the excitement of danger could keep them up. And after all this privation, exposure, and exhausting labor comes the catastrophe. The vessel goes ashore, or on a reef, rock or shoal. In either case the peril of being washed overboard is one of the first encountered. Then probably the crew lash themselves in the rigging if the masts hold, and there they hang, often through raging winter nights, the mercury perhaps below zero. the wind fierce enough to pierce through the thickest clothing, with the spray drenching them, a howling blackness all around them and death at their feet.

To their rescue, springing from warm beds out into the wild night, go the life-saving crew. Often their deadly peril begins in the launching of the life-boat. Sometimes they are spilled into the surf. Sometimes they clear it. And then through mountainous waves they make their dogged way, frequently to find that the wreck lies in broken water so tossed and confused, so menacing and terrible, that it seems madness to tempt it. But they go on, fire-escapes for such buildings. Certainly one part of the crew. And when the life-boat is not used the work of these crews is still often full of danger, and demanding the utmost keenness, skill and judgment. There is, to employ a current slang phrase, "no money in it." It is a matter of duty, loyalty and manhood. But certainly no liberality can be too great that is demanded for the better protection of our seamen, and for the facilitating of such noble work as the life-saving service.

> MERCHANTS AGAINST THE CUBAN TREATY If the proceedings in the Chamber of Commerce on Monday are an indication of the feeling of business men in regard to the Spanish treaty, it can hardly be said that the treaty is particularly popular. Notwithstanding the favoring report of a majority of the special committee to whom the matter was referred, about two thirds of the members present at the meeting fluilly passed a resolution that "the Spanish-American treaty is shostile to the interests of the people of the "United States, and ought not to be con-" firmed." Among the objections urged were the injury which the treaty would do to the tabages and sugar industries, and to other in dustries in this country; its inequality, conceding vistly more to Spain than Spain would concede to the United States; and its sacrifice of a large revenue which might more profitably be expended in another way.

For example, Mr. Thurtur suggests that, with the revenue which it is proposed to sur render, a bounty could be paid to producers of sugar which would in a few years enable us to produce all the sugar we consume. It is not very long since the German Government not the London police found this out Why with a treaty of vast importance to the future men of business of New York, and, he might entered upon a similar experiment, and has sid they not know it by intuition? Shall the interests and the present commerce of the have added, of the whole country. "despair of added already to the world's production of

Nation. Other objections there are which will | " wise legislation on these great commercial sugar about 1,000,000 tons yearly by the culture of the beet root. A similar bounty to beet-root and sorghum producers in thin country would quickly render the United States independent of all the world in the matter of angar. It was also suggested that, with the revenues, which it is proposed to surrender, such compensation could be paid to steam lines. as would secure direct and frequent communication with the ports of Central and South America. Just there is the key of the difficulty. If the United States needs to increase its foreign commerce, it can do so far more effectively by building up direct steam communication with foreign countries, with mails under the control of the United States Government, than by any reciprocity treaty whatever,

### CHRISTMAS DAY.

Christmas is a many-sided festival. It commemorates a great dogmatic thought of the Church which under the name of the Incarnation stands at the base of Christianity. It is above all else a right royal and merry feast to a large majority of Englishmen who even in this utilitarian age have not forgotten the traditions of the Cavaliers of the seventeenth and the Tories of the eighteenth century. It is to the young the happy season of giving and receiving of gifts, made beautiful and precious by the thoughts of love that go with them. It is to the poor man or woman bowed down with life's burden or stricken with life's sorrow the rift in the cloud, it may be, where the blue sky is visible, and the brief sunshine of human kindness gives courage to the fainting soul. And finally, Christmas is to average people the world over a holiday, legal or social, when the wheels of business cease revolving, when churches are fragrant with evergreens and joyous with music, and when there is plenty of time for the united family to eat a dinner as elaborate as the circumstances will permit. But to all alike, Churchman and unbeliever, Roundhead and Cavalier, gentle and simple, old and young, rich and poor, it brings with it something at least of joy. It is not merely the day when the Church commemorates a dogma; it is also the day when the hearts of the people are touched by the angels' song of peace and good will. It is the apotheosis of the ideal of human brotherhood.

And well for us that it is so. Life is full enough at best of cares and sorrows. Happy they who for even a few brief days can go back in thought to the half-spun dreams of their childhood, and recall the hallowed tales they first learned at their mother's knee. It is good for us to relax for a season the hard set look of the worldling and the money-getter, and yield to the sweet influence of nobler and better ideals. The utilitarian is an estimable person in his way, but there are times when his parrotlike cry, "What use ?" is an impertinence. The value of a festival like Christmas is altogether beyond the ken of such a man, with his dry columns of facts and figures. It is at once a sentiment, a memory, a hope, and a prophecy of that which yet shall be.

As such the world needs it, perhaps more than ever before. The unceasing rush of modern life is making sad havoe with the old festalldays of our forefathers. We hardly know how to throw aside all care and be simply happy. That good old word "merry" which always goes with Christmas has a strange unfamiliar sound in the world of the steam engine and the telegraph; We Americans cancelally are a sail face, a serious rare, more whose work has father like a pull, and to whom incommence for its own sales is almost unknown. We have not only landshed the bull days which my foodsthers delighted to home, but have failed to relichrate properly the few helidays which we gradgingly allowed ! to take their place. Let us bring back the holidays, and let us

learn to celebrate them as seasons of rest, of recreation, of reminiscence. There is room for them all, for none, perhaps, more than for Christmas. With its religious suggestions, with its lessons of charity and brotherhood, with its memories of the sweet long ago of hopeful. joyous youth, with its prophecy of that good time coming when mankind shall reach the goal be an insult to God. And he added that if the rabbits of happiness, this day is surely worth preserv- have become a pest it is because the people have been too ng to humanity. Aside from its theological or sectarian aspect, it stands forth as the feast of brotherly kindness. Its celebration will soften the asperities of life, and renew in the soul the fading picture of earlier innocence. It will keep alive the childlike element in our pature without which we soon become hard and unnatural. And it will remind us, coming as it does at the end of each recurring year, when we are about to east up the ledger of our failures and successes, that the pursuit of wealth or fame is not all of life, and that both combined will be worse than useless to us unless they are accompanied by the happiness that comes from duty done.

The accomplished leader of Harrigan & Hart's orchestra lost a violin valued at \$500 in the Theatre Comique fire. He had never left it in the house over night before. Just what constitutes the difference between a dispensation of Providence and a stroke of fate is the question which now interests the violinist.

The dispatch from Wheeling on the 23d gives the best evidence that can be obtained of the actual difference of the Greenback vote in that State, about which there has been considerable dispute. It states that 60 per cent of this vote was cast for the Republican candidates, and 40 per cent went to the Democratic party. This must refer, however, to the vote east for Weaver in 1880, lnasmuch as no separate Greenback vote has since been cast. On that basis about 5,400 Greenback votes were given and in most cases they succeed in rescuing a to the Republicans, and about 3,600 to the Demoerats. This makes it evident that the proper Republican vote cast for Mr. Blaine has hitherto been not correctly stated by those who have deducted the whole Greenback vote of 1880 from the number east for Republican electors in West Virginia Strictly speaking, fusion in that State had no effect, the Greenback force having resolved itself into its original elements, and as in Virginia, definitely divided between the two large parties.

> The decision of the Brooklyn Independents not to form a third party suggests the homely fact that the material which would make a mud-pie won't make

Senator Bayard must be considerably astonished at the liberties taken by the Delaware newspapers in discussing his possible successor in the Senate. He should recall them to their senses by pointing out that his son, the third James Asheley Bayard, and the fifth of that illustrous line of American Senators, is in existence.

3 The year 1884 has been a remarkable year in several respects, but particularly in cutting down the record for passages across the Atlantic. A dispatch of the 23d shows that the new Cunard iteamer, Oregon, made an eastern passage in tidaya 8 hours and 52 minutes, reaching Queenstown that day. The building of steamers with a view to speed rather than freight expanity is likely to continue for some time to some, and there are many who believe man hashirtonial quite materially by decision which no rat asiat only in the plans of inventors.

John G. Thompson was for fifteen years the bess A the Democratic machine in Ohio. He has turned up to Washington with the remark that Mr. Pendleaome substantial way, because, "if he is not, the cause of Civil Service reform will receive a severe blow." Mr. thompson standing as champion for Civil Service reform is as great a miracle as if Barnum should persuade one of his leopards (by

paint pot and brush to change its spots. And prob ably just as genuine.

There is a rumor that Mr. Dorsholmer, even the bosom-friend author of the " Life of Cleveland," to to be put of with the barren honor of the Dema eratic nomination for United States Senator, II this be so, Mr. Dorsheimer can be counted upon to supplement his biography with A Philosophie Inquiry into the Precise Degree of Sharpness beyond that of the Serpent's Sharpest Tooth achieved by Thankless Democracy.

. We are glad Mr. Theodore Roosevelt is coming back to New-York to spend Christmas with us. We like to have Mr. Roosevelt around. He is a gentleman of versatile talents, genial manner and quite a little political sagneity. He has skilfully welded in himself the seemingly antipodal qualities of the practical politician and the reformer. That is to say, Mr. Roosevelt's cause is always just; but when he wants to run a primary or to stampede a convention, he is up to all the games of the most accomplished wire-puller. Thus to bring good out of evil is a skill upon the possession of which we felicitate Mr. Rooseveit. Then, again, it isn't every man who can kill a twelve-hundred-pound grazzly bear within nine feet of him before he saw it.

Christmas buying ended last night. It has no been an altogether satisfactory season. The stores have been crowded as a matter of course; but as nearly everybody wanted to get a five-dollar article for two dollars and a half, the results have not been entirely pleasing to the shoppers or the shopkeepers.

#### PERSONAL.

The Rev. Dr. W. F. Mailalieu, lately elected Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who has been assigned to duty in the South, reached New-Orleans last week and will make his home in that city. He is a native of Massachuseits and spent most of his life there, and this is his list visit to the South. His family, now in Boston, will join him in February.

Eugenie, ex-Empress of France, is highly esteemed by he people of Farnborough, on the streets of which town she is often seen, afoot; not only "shopping," but on errands of charity.

Dr. August Hjalmar Edgren, professor of modern languages in the Royal University of Sweden has accepted a similar position in the State University of Nebraska, and will enter upon his duties there about April 1. He is a veteran of the War of the Rebellion and a Yale graduate, and for some years taught modern languages at his Alma Mater.

In accordance with the Oucen's wishes, in the official count of the christening of the infant Duke of Albany the late Duke is described as "Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany," and it is recalled that Her Majesty only consented to his elevation to the Perrage on condition that he should always be thus styled. The form was altogether unprecedented and was much opposed by the Prince of Wales, but Victoria was determined that the name of her beloved uncle, the late King of Beigium, should not be forgotten.

It is proposed to canonize the late Right Reverend It is proposed to canonize the late Right Reverent John Nepomacene Neumann, for eight years Roman Catholic Bishop of Philadelphia. He died in that office in 1860 and was buried beneath the sanctuary of St. Peter's Church in that city, and it is related that numeraus miracles have been wrought at his tomb. Of course, by the law of the Church, he cannot be enrolled in the catalogue of Saints for a quarter of a century vel, but the collection of evidence concorning his gody his and the miracles at his tomb will be immediately begun.

The Marquis of Londonderry keeps up the family interest in the coal trade, and has just added to his fices probably the most perfectly-constructed coal-steamer is England, called the Vane Tempest.

### THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Henry George was recently making an elephent speech vert to the people who were its original owners, when he was rulely interrupted by an unfeeling person in the audience who called out, " Then are you Yankees going some people who are willing to upset any pretty theory by asking awkward questions.

One night white John Steintlough was playing Farguiss in Little Book, a lean old follow from the hills white atmitted at the foot of the operations in the first accounted by an equalitative who maked. Took Physics of the operation and the first accounted by an equalitative who maked. Took Physics of the operation and the operation of the operation and the operation and

A man was drawned Fuesday in a val of liquor. Ale

The territory embraced in the "geographical basin of the Congo," which the International African Association claims, comprised 9,000,000 square miles, an area forty-four times larger than France.—Troy Times. The Bishop of Melbourne, Australia, entertains some practical ideas about prayer. A number of people in his discose recently asked him to incorporate in the church

service a petition that rabbits should be smitten wit

sterility, to which he replied that such a petition would

lazy to exterminate them, and he therefore adve-petitioners to go to work on the rabbits them: ome good churchmen fear the Bishop is not sound in the

The Rev. Mr. Spurgeon says, he only firds ten commandments to keep, and as not one of them is against smoking, he proposes to smoke. Not one of them is against a man becoming a dade, either, but it is hered Mr. spurgeon will not take alvantage of this fact.—[Norristown Herald.] If there is one thing a Southern farmer would rather do

Chicago is to have 300 new policemen. This is better than having a world's fair or a visit from all the royal families. If there is one person who is more important than all the other persons he is a new policeman.—[Culcago News.] Arizona has just held its first Territorial fair at

Phoenix, and the display of minerals and agricultural implements was very creditable.

The other day an entire column of The London Telegraph was taken up by an advertisement in minion type he died, by the word "Eternity," and containing a Salvation Army sort of warning to humanity to repeat of its sins. It is said an unknown man entered the counting room of the paper, asked the price of such an advertisement, paid it, produced the copy andwent out as quietly and as unknown as he came.—[Philadelphia Press. Now is the time when the farmer sits down at night

and reads the stock of new almanaes for the coming year. After finding out all about the eclipses, he turns to January and finds that several persons were born in that month, and that on the whole it will be cold and clear, or snowy and cloudy.

Early exhibition visitors to New-Orleans are astonished, on disembarking from a steamer, to find that the sewers are open streams of water at the sides of the streets, and running away from the river instead of toward it; to see wells built up from the ground, not dag into it, and to to learn that the cemeteries are verifable eities of the dead, the tembs being little houses with gables and too's, and arranged in avenues and squares.—(Toronto Globe.

If somebody will lend William H. English a postage he will apply for the Treasury portfoli

In Northern Siberia when a young man thinks he to marry a young woman he arranges to pay a certain sum to her father. Half of this sum he pays down and lives with the family of his lady love for a year. If al the end of that time he still wants her, he pays the other half of the sum agreed upon and gets her. want her he says so and loses the instalment which no

The competent waiter never returns thanks for a tip. He sweeps it up with such other cramps as happen to be on the table cloth, and puts it in his pocket with a non-enalance which, being interpreted into words, says: "Oh, yea, I'll take it, as a grainity, not as a tip; and take it only to please you, not that I want it. I am too much of a gentieman to offend you by refusing your tribute to my distinguished worth."—[Hoston Francetit.]

"Yes," said the theatrieal manager, "I have had an application from an indian for a position in my company, and I think I'll engage him." "Indians can't act, said the star. "What will you do with him when you get him !" well," replied the manager, "I think I will try him in Lo councily."—Boston Course.

A German physician was recently tried for failing to keep himself informed as to modern methods of practice. It was proved that he could have saved a patient who had died under his treatment if he had made use at the motern antiseptic dressings. He was promptly found entity, the contilholding that "every practitioner should keep himself informed on the accomplished progress of actence, and have an exact knowledge of modern as atoms of treatment. If these had been employed the patient's

times, the cities had an enthusiantic but expended to the city of the cities were the delicht and despet of the cities of the ci